

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 are pending in the application prior to entering this amendment.

The examiner objects to claims 1-6 as difficult to understand and reciting limitations unsupported in the specification. The examiner rejects claims 1-6 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The examiner rejects claims 1, 3, and 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Greggain (U.S. Pat. No. 5,991,463). The examiner rejects claim 2, 4, and 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Greggain in view of Fandrianto (U.S. Pat. No. 5,901,248).

The applicants cancel claims 1-6, without prejudice, and add claims 7-28.

Claims 1-6 remain in the case after entering this amendment.

The applicants add no new matter and request reconsideration.

Claim Objections And Claim Rejections Under § 112

The applicants fail to understand the examiner's difficulty with the current claims. The applicants traverse the examiner's objections and rejections under §112. The applicants contend the claims are not confusing and their recited elements and limitations fully supported in the specification at, e.g., locations indicated by the applicant in prior communications. Notwithstanding the traverse, the applicants cancel claims 1-6 without prejudice.

Claim Rejections Under § 102 and 103

The applicants add new claims 7-28 that define patentably over Greggain, Fandriatto, their combination, and any other reference of record, individually or in combination,

Claim 7 recites *a feature extractor ... by identifying image features in a pixel array.*

Claim 18 recites *populating ... by identifying image features in the source pixels.*

The limitation *image features* describes "visually significant structure, such as a [sic] for example, a line, edge, or ramp of arbitrary orientation." Specification, page 3, lines 30-31.

"The feature extractor 302 (FE), or as it is also known, Feature Identification, performs a process whereby specific characteristics of the image are identified and which may be recorded for later use. When enlarging an arbitrary image, the most important features in an image, on a line-by-line basis, are usually, but not limited to, a ramp (a succession of either increasing or decreasing intensities), edges (a large change in intensity, sometimes called a step), and a level segment (a series of successive intensities that are relatively constant). There are other features such as noise, spikes, and so on, which can also

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be identified and stored for subsequent use.” Specification, page 6, lines 25-30 and page 7 lines 1-2.

Claim 7 recites *a feature extractor to populate a feature table by identifying image features in a pixel array and a feature comparator to populate a match table by matching features in the feature table*. Claim 28 recites *populating a feature table by identifying image features in the source pixels, populating a match table by matching features in the feature table, and generating a target pixel responsive to the matching*.

Neither Greggain nor Fandriatto teach the recited feature and match tables recited.

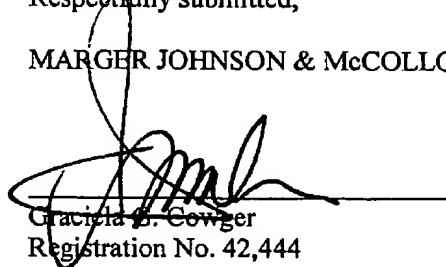
Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, the Applicants request reconsideration and allowance of all claims as amended. The Applicants encourage the Examiner to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

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Respectfully submitted,

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